

## Goal

Clearly understood linkages to City and County destinations.

## Objective

### ARM 5.0

To develop a system of information, visual elements, and transportation that integrate the County, City, and University Community into a cohesive community fabric.

## Policies

### ARM 5.1

Work with the City of Merced to develop a well-designed street signage and monuments/ landmarks program that will be commonly used throughout the University Community, City of Merced, and adjoining areas that provides clear information regarding major destinations and travel routes (“wayfinding”). (*Imp 3.3*)

### ARM 5.2

Work with the City of Merced in establishing a unified transit system that connects the University Community with key destinations in the City. (*Imp 3.3, 4.1*)

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## RELATIONSHIP TO ADJACENT USES

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### CONTEXT

The University Community planning area divides both the Flying “M” property being acquired by the Virginia Smith Trust/UC Merced LLC and Hunt Farms. The lands west of the Fairfield and Le Grand Canals within the UCP are designated for urban uses. Lands east of these canals have a rural designation of “Agriculture” in the County General Plan. As lands within the University Community and UC Merced campus are developed over time, it may be appropriate to consider how the use of these adjoining properties inter-relate and fit. The area north of the Le Grand Canal is highly constrained, as it is near some of the most valuable and sensitive wetlands and endangered species habitat in the region. The lands south of the Le Grand Canal are currently irrigated pastureland, crop land, and non-irrigated pasture. The use of such lands would have to be carefully evaluated for its impacts on the region’s agricultural productivity, natural resource enhancement opportunities, and continuity with the University Community and UC Merced campus.

### GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES

## Goal

Long-term use of the land east of the University Community that reflects the site’s natural resources, contribution to agricultural productivity, continuity with the University Community, and role as a definable urban limit.

## Objective

### AV 1.0

To provide a process for the consideration of the appropriate long-term use of lands east of the University Community Boundary.

## Policies

### AV 1.1

Evaluate the appropriate long-term use of the lands east of the University Community including consideration of, but not limited to, development, agriculture, habitat preservation, or habitat restoration. (*Imp 2.1, 5.1*)

### AV 1.2

Evaluations of the lands east of the University Community shall consider the site’s soils, agricultural uses, and productivity; the existing presence of wetlands and significant plant and animal species, as well as habitat enhancement or restoration opportunities; relationship and ability to fit with the University Community’s land uses and infrastructure and UC Merced; and relationships to adjoining agriculture and open spaces. (*Imp 2.1, 2.3, 5.1*)